

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for killing a target population of mollusk pests in an aqueous system hosting said population comprising the step of adding to said aqueous system an amount that is sufficient to kill said target population of an aquacidal compound selected from the group consisting of 1,4-benzoquinone, 2,5-dihydroxy 3,6-dinitro p-benzoquinone, 2,6-dimethoxy benzoquinone, 3-hydroxy-2-methoxy-5-methyl-p-benzoquinone, 2-methylbenzoquinone, tetrahydroxy-p-benzoquinone, ~~2,3-methoxy-5-methyl-1,4-benzoquinone~~ 2,3-dimethoxy-5methyl-1,4-benzoquinone and mixtures thereof.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said mollusk pests are selected from the group consisting of mussels, clams and snails.

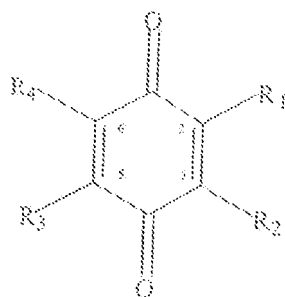
29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, wherein said mollusk pests are selected from the group consisting of zebra mussels and Asiatic clams.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27 wherein said pests are exposed to said aquacidal compound for a period of time sufficient to kill said pests.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein said pests are exposed to said aquacidal compound for a period of time within the range of 1-96 hours.

32-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) A method for controlling a population of target aquatic pest by applying an aquacidal compound to water in a ballast water tank that is infected with said aquatic pest, wherein said aquacidal compound is applied in an amount that is effective to kill said population and is a benzoquinone having the formula:



where: R₁ is hydrogen, methyl, hydroxy or methoxy group;
R₂ is hydrogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy or -NO₂ group;
R₃ is hydrogen, hydroxy, methyl or methoxy group; and
R₄ is hydrogen, methyl, methoxy, hydroxy, or -NO₂ group.